

## THE STETSON DONATION

OF A TOWN HOUSE AND FUND FOR A HIGH SCHOOL TO THE  
TOWN OF RANDOLPH.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of Randolph June 17th 1841, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously adopted, viz: —

Whereas a communication has been received from Amasa Stetson, Esq., of Dorchester, intimating his intention, provided a satisfactory location can be obtained, to erect and present to the town a building suitable for the accommodation of the inhabitants in the transaction of their public business —

*Resolved*, — That we cordially reciprocate the kind and generous feelings which have prompted the honorable gentleman to so distinguished an act of liberality to the place of his nativity; that we gratefully accept his proposal, and will adopt all measures which may be necessary on our part, to secure its speedy and successful accomplishment.

*Resolved*, — That the Selectmen, together with such other persons as may be appointed for that purpose, be authorised as a committee of the town, to communicate with the Honorable Mr. Stetson on the subject of a site for the proposed house, and to advise with him as far as may be necessary as to its construction, and adopt all other measures which the interests of the town in the premises may require.

*Resolved*, — That the Town Clerk be requested to furnish an attested copy of our proceedings, and that Mr. Jacob Niles be appointed a special agent to communicate the same to Mr. Stetson.

*Voted*, — That Maj. Jonathan Stetson be requested to nominate four persons, to constitute with the Selectmen the committee contemplated in the several resolutions, — whereupon, he nominated Jonathan Wales, Royal Turner, Alvan Kidder, and Bradford L. Wales, and they were chosen said committee.

Aug. 9th, 1841. — *Voted*, — That the Selectmen be directed to inform the Hon. Amasa Stetson that the town accept of his liberal donation, and will furnish, for that purpose, one of the six lots named by him to the committee of conference as satisfactory to himself.

March 3d, 1842. — *Voted*, — To purchase the land on which stands the dwelling-house of the late Samuel Bass, Esq., for the sum of three thousand and five hundred dollars, provided the owners will deed to the town all the front land extending from Union street south to a stake standing eight rods north of the land of Henry Belcher.

*Chosen*, — Seth Mann, Esq. a committee to present the proposition of the town to the owners, who reported immediately, that he had attended to the duty, and the owners had consented to the proposals made by the town, and would sell on said condition, which report was thereupon accepted.

*Jan. 23d, 1843. — Communication from Hon. A. Stetson.*

Dorchester Dec. 1, 1842.

Gentlemen, — In forming a plan for the town-house, for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Randolph, in the transaction of their public business, I found that a building for that purpose merely, would not be so capacious without apparent waste of property, as the respectability of the town and eligible site provided for it required; provision was therefore made for a basement or story beneath the hall, to contain apartments suitable for banking, for the sale of merchandize, and for an academy, &c.

The building thus arranged, appropriated and finished, I most respectfully tender through you, gentlemen, to the town of Randolph, as a proof of regard for the place of my nativity. That it may be acceptable to the town, and be long used advantageously for the purposes for which the several portions of it are appropriated, is the wish of the donor; and that the income which may arise from the rents of the several apartments not necessary for the town in the transaction of its public business, be appropriated to the support of the academy under direction of a Board of Trustees, to consist of three members to be chosen by ballot by the town at their annual elections of town officers. It is not intended that this academy shall divert industry from productive pursuits, as academical and collegiate teachings tend to do, but to extend and improve the education of male youth from fourteen to eighteen years of age, beyond the instruction which those of similar ages acquire in common town schools; not that I wish them taught any other than the English language, but that which will be best calculated to promote their usefulness, prosperity and worth as citizens. And it is hoped the income which may arise from the rents of the apartments aforesaid, judiciously managed with such moderate fees as may be required of the scholars, together with sums of money with which the academy may be endowed, will afford support to a school which though not a large one, may yet be of credit to the town, and of advantage to the rising generation.

I remain, gentlemen, yours very respectfully,

AMASA STETSON.

Selectmen of the town of Randolph.

*Resolved*, — Whereas, a communication from Amasa Stetson of Dorchester, was made to the citizens of Randolph, through the Selectmen, in town meeting assembled this 23d day of

January, presenting to the town of Randolph the elegant edifice lately erected at his own expense, on town land, for the convenience of the town and the promotion of education, as therein expressed having been read, —

*First*, — That said communication be entered in full upon the town records, and that the town duly appreciate the great liberality of the donor, with gratitude accept said building, hoping and trusting that it may stand, not only as a memorial of his munificence, but be instrumental of effectually promoting the education and best interests of the youth of his native place, and the convenience of the inhabitants in the performance of their municipal duties.

*Second*, — That this building ever be hereafter known under the name of "STETSON HALL."

*Third*, — That an attested copy of the above votes be forwarded to the Hon. Amasa Stetson by the gentlemen Selectmen, with such further expressions of gratitude as they in their wisdom may think expedient.

*Fourth*, — That the Selectmen be a committee to confer with the Hon. Amasa Stetson, and request his portrait to be placed in Stetson Hall, and with his consent, they be authorized to employ an artist for that purpose, at a sum not exceeding FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS.

*Communication from the Hon. Amasa Stetson.*

Dorchester, Feb. 15, 1843.

TO THE GENTLEMEN SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF RANDOLPH.

Having by my communication of the first of December, 1842, through you presented to the town of Randolph the building lately erected, and which your town by vote have been pleased to designate Stetson Hall, for various purposes, as in the said communication set forth, among which is the support of an academy or English school; and whereas the income arising from said building will be insufficient for carrying into effect my object as therein expressed, I do hereby, the more effectually to promote the interest of the present and rising generation, make a further donation of the sum of *ten thousand dollars*, in certificates of Massachusetts five per cent. stock, the income from which together with the rents of such parts of the said Stetson Hall as are not necessary for the use of the said town in transacting their public business, it is to be hoped, will, after deducting the expenses of insurance and perfect repairs of said building, be sufficient, with such trifling tuition fees as may be thought expedient to support said school forever; and the said donation of ten thousand dollars is hereby transferred and passed over to the inhabitants of your said town, in trust, under the following restrictions and conditions.

*First,* — That the said sum of ten thousand dollars with the income of Stetson Hall, or so much thereof as shall not be wanted for the use of the town in the transaction of their public business, shall forever be kept distinct and entire from all other monies and property of said town, and shall ever be kept and hereafter known as the fund of the Stetson High School.

*Second,* — The interest income of said fund shall be under the absolute control of a Board of Trustees hereinafter provided for, subject at all times to the examination of the inhabitants of the said town by their committee appointed for that purpose and shall by them be appropriated (after deducting the expenses of insurance and perfect repairs of Stetson Hall) towards the support of said High School, to be for ever kept in the rooms of said Stetson Hall, or in case of the alienation or destruction of said Stetson Hall, from any cause whatever, then in some other building on or near said spot.

*Third,* — The Board of Trustees before named shall have absolute control over said school, and shall admit without favor, or affection, or partiality, from each and every section of the town male children only, between the ages of fourteen and eighteen years of age, of suitable abilities and previous acquirements at their discretion; and should the number of applicants be greater than can be attended to with advantage by the teachers, a suitable number shall be admitted by lot, once in each year, and no one having been admitted, shall be excluded in consequence of an extra number of applicants until he shall have attended said school one entire year. But should the number of applicants between the years of fourteen and eighteen be insufficient to fill said school, then those of a less age than fourteen or greater than age of eighteen years may be admitted at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

*Fourth,* — There may be taught any or all of the various branches usually deemed necessary for a good English education. It being my object, as expressed in my former communication, to extend and improve the education of male youth beyond what those of similar ages acquire in common town schools, — the better to promote their usefulness, prosperity, and moral worth as citizens. The introduction of other than the English language, or of any branch deemed necessary for collegiate education or professional pursuit, at the expense of this fund are hereby prohibited. But should any future contributor make sufficient provision for the instruction of youth in any of the above prohibited branches, their introduction shall not be considered incompatible with the objects of this donation.

*Fifth,* — The Board of Trustees shall have full control of said school, shall provide fuel and all other necessaries for the

same, shall contract with suitable and well qualified teachers, and shall dismiss the same at pleasure; shall admit pupils as before stated, and shall have full power to dismiss them for inattention to studies, immoral conduct, or for any other good and sufficient reason. They shall make good and wholesome By-Laws and regulations for the profitable management of said school, and do and perform all that is necessary and expedient for the maintenance of a high and enduring character, to each and every individual connected with said school; and the said Trustees shall, furthermore, insure or cause to be insured against loss by fire, to a reasonable amount of the value of said Stetson Hall, and shall at all times cause said building and adjacent grounds to be kept in perfect repair, and shall at all times, either through the Town Treasurer, or in such other way as the town may by vote decide, have full and absolute power to draw the income of said Stetson Hall and the interest of this donation, as soon as it may accrue, and appropriate the same in good faith to the accomplishment of the several objects herein specified, and not otherwise.

*Sixth,*— The said Board of Trustees shall consist of three resident inhabitants of said town of Randolph, of suitable qualifications and good moral character, and shall be chosen by ballot as soon as may be, at a legal meeting of the inhabitants of said town called for this purpose, and the person having the highest number of votes on the ticket (provided it be a majority of the whole number) shall be elected for three years, and the person having the next greatest number, for two years, and he who receives the next greatest number shall be elected for one year, which will hereafter cause one vacancy in each year, which vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as before stated, by ballot, for the term of three years; and should any other than annual vacancies occur, either by resignation or death, or otherwise, the said vacancy may be filled for the unexpired term, by any meeting called for that purpose.

*Seventh,*— There shall be chosen by the town annually a financial committee of the fund of Stetson High School, whose duty it shall be, to make annually a careful examination of all receipts and disbursements by the Board of Trustees, for or on account of said fund, and to see that the said fund remains entire and is securely invested, and make a true report to the town in legal meeting assembled, previously to the annual election of Trustees.

*Eighth,*— There shall never hereafter be made any transfer of stocks, or any other property in which any part of this fund may be invested, nor any new investment of any portion of said fund, without the approbation and consent of a majority of the Board of Trustees and a majority of the Selectmen for the time being.

*Ninth*, — The inhabitants of said town of Randolph in legal meeting assembled and called for this purpose, shall, in their corporate capacity, within one month from the date hereof, accept the before named donation, and shall forever stand obliged to keep the said fund with its interest, and the income of Stetson Hall, as may not be necessary for the use of the town in the transaction of their public business, entirely separate from all and every other of the fiscal concerns of said town, and to cause and permit the interest, income, and improvements of the same to be at the disposal of the Board of Trustees, chosen as aforesaid, in the full and faithful performance of the several duties therein above assigned them, and should any part of my communication of the first day of December, A. D. 1842, or in the doings of the said town thereon, appear to conflict with the conditions of this donation, the said town will make said conflicting points null and void in the acceptance of this donation, both being considered by me as connected for the same purpose, viz. The better and permanent accommodation for the transaction of town's business, and the all-important object of promoting the moral and mental condition of the youth of my much regarded place of nativity.

*Tenth*, — In default of the fulfilment of the spirit and intention of this communication, or in case of wilful alienation or appropriation of this fund or the income thereof, to any purpose foreign to the wishes of the donor, as herein expressed — the said fund shall revert to a board of Trustees to be appointed by act or resolve of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, whose duty it shall be to recover and keep in trust the said fund, and to appropriate the income thereof, as near as circumstances may admit in effecting the objects of the donor, as herein expressed, and under such restrictions as the Honorable Legislature, in their wisdom may deem expedient.

*Finally*, — May the whole establishment be made to subserve the important objects of its creation, by wisdom and probity in its guidance, under the fostering care of that *beneficent Providence* on whose *blessings* we depend for preservation and prosperity, is the ardent wish of its *founder*.

Respectfully, I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

AMASA STETSON.

After hearing the communication from the Hon. Amasa Stetson —

*Voted*, — To choose a committee of five persons, to draft and report to the town resolutions expressive of their thanks to the Hon. Amasa Stetson, for his great liberality to his native town.

*Chose*, — Royal Turner, Aaron Prescott, Isaac Tower, Bradford L. Wales, and Benjamin Richards on said committee, who reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by vote of the town, viz : —

*First,* — That the communication of the Hon. Amasa Stetson, with certificates of ten thousand dollars Massachusetts five per cent. stock, as a donation to the town, and for the specific purposes as therein expressed, be and the same is hereby most respectfully accepted.

*Second,* — That the said communication be recorded in full with the town records in connection with the doings of this meeting.

*Third,* — That this and the communication of the Hon. Amasa Stetson, of December 1, 1842, be recorded in the registry office of the County of Norfolk.

*Fourth,* — That this donation be forever known and designated as the Fund of the Stetson High School.

*Fifth,* — That the interest of this fund and the income of Stetson Hall be for ever appropriated in strict conformity with the several restrictions and conditions as expressed in said communication, and that the town be now and forever pledged to carry into effect the several objects of the munificent donor as therein set forth.

*Sixth,* — That the repeated donations of the Hon. Amasa Stetson to this his native town, merit and receive our continued expressions of gratitude; and while we most sincerely hope he may yet enjoy many years of health, in which to witness the good effects of this his liberality, we trust future generations will continue to realize unspeakable advantages of education in the institution he has so liberally founded.

*Seventh,* — That the Selectmen be a committee to present the Hon. Amasa Stetson an attested copy of the doings of the town at the present meeting, with such expression of their feelings as they may deem appropriate.

April 17, 1843. — *Voted,* — That the Selectmen be directed to cause to be printed the correspondence between the Hon. Amasa Stetson and the authorities of the town, together with the rules regulating Stetson High School.

*Voted,* — That the Trustees of Stetson Fund are hereby vested in their said capacities as Trustees, with full power to retain and have in safe keeping the entire Stetson School Fund, in trust for the inhabitants of Randolph, and to draw the income of Stetson Hall and the interest of said donation, and are required to appropriate the same in strict conformity with conditions of said letter of donation, and not otherwise; and they are furthermore required to keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements in their said capacity, and their book of accounts shall at all times be opened for the inspection of the Selectmen for the time being, and the Selectmen for the time being are hereby constituted ex-officio an auditing committee, who shall previous to the annual town meeting strictly examine the accounts of said Trustees, with

the vouchers for the same, and make full report of their doings at the said annual meeting, for such disposition as the inhabitants of the town may direct; and this arrangement with regard to the said Stetson High School Fund, shall continue in full force until altered or repealed by the inhabitants of said town in legal meeting assembled.

*Voted,* — That it is expedient that the Massachusetts State scrip, given by the Hon. Amasa Stetson as the "Stetson High School Fund," be surrendered, and new certificates taken, transferable only under the conditions as expressed in the letter of donation, and that the Selectmen together with the Trustees, be a committee to petition the Legislature for a Resolve, authorizing the State Treasurer to grant new certificates accordingly.

(A true copy of Records,)

ELEAZER BEAL, *Town Clerk.*



**Dr.      The Board of Trustees in Account with Stetson High School Fund.      Cr.**

1850.			
April,	To Cash, balance of last year,	-	\$413 42
"	April Dividend on 7 Shares in Randolph Bank,	-	28 00
"	October 10 "	-	40 00
"	One year's Rent from Randolph Bank,	-	100 00
"	Income of State stock for the year,	-	500 00
"	Received during the year from sundry persons for use of the Hall,	-	167 50

\$1248 92

1850.			
April 25,	By Cash paid V. H. Deane, salary and sundries per bill,	-	\$144 75
May 1,	By Cash paid Seth Turner, for three Shares in Randolph Bank,	-	330 00
" 6,	By Cash paid V. H. Deane, repairs and fixtures in school-room,	-	14 30
" 14,	By Cash, — Sheridan for labor,	-	50
" 27,	R. W. Turner bill of sundries,	-	1 55
July 29,	V. H. Deane, salary and sundries as per bill,	-	168 50
Aug. 23,	for repairing lock on store door,	-	75
Sept. 12,	" Hall door,	-	30
Oct. 2,	Tables, chairs, &c., for school-room,	-	8 00
" 22,	Nicholas English, for labor,	-	75
Nov. 22,	V. H. Deane, salary &c.,	-	143 66
" "	" "	-	143 75
1851. Feb. 13,	B. L. Wales, for wood and labor for school,	-	42 00
" 28,	" " " for Hall,	-	20 50
" "	Trustees for one year's services.	-	15 00
" "	Secretary,	-	5 00
" "	Balance to new account,	-	209 61
			<u>1248 92</u>

*Randolph, March 1, 1851.*

SETH TURNER, *Secretary.*

The Trustees of the Stetson School present the foregoing statement of the receipts and expenditures, during the past year. The Fund now consists of ten thousand dollars, invested in Massachusetts 5 per cent. stock, ten shares of Randolph Bank stock, and two hundred and nine dollars and sixty one cents (\$209 61) cash on hand, as rendered in the above account.

We would further state, that the School, from its first establishment, has never been in a more prosperous state, than at the present moment. The average number of scholars in daily attendance for the last three years, has been a fraction over forty, — at the present time fifty-two, the largest number that can be accommodated under the present arrangement of the school-room.

Although the average age of the scholars is not so high as could be desired (ranging mostly from ten to seventeen years) still the trustees feel justified in saying, that the progress made by the pupils in the several branches taught has been highly satisfactory; they are confident that the method of teaching adopted by the instructor is thorough, and best calculated to bring out the strongest effort of the scholar. The discipline has always been paternal, and of such a character as to encourage in the pupils habits of industry and strict punctuality, without which no effort, however desirable can avail. We confidently express the opinion that the School has been well instructed, — that the mental progress of the pupils justifies this conclusion; and, in view of these facts, the Trustees feel most happy in thus publicly expressing their approbation of the present method of instruction pursued, and discipline adopted in Stetson School, and cannot close this report without unanimously expressing our entire confidence in the ability, talents, efforts and industry of Mr. Deane, our present teacher.

Randolph,  
March 1, 1851.

BRADFORD L. WALES,	} Trustees of Stetson High School.
EZRA C. SCOTT,	
LEVI PIERCE,	

The subscribers, Selectmen of the town of Randolph, have this day made the required examination of the accounts of the Trustees of the Stetson School Fund, and find them correct with proper vouchers. The original fund of ten thousand dollars Massachusetts five per cent. stock, remains in the Trustees hands unimpaired, beside which there is added to the same ten shares of the stock of the Randolph Bank, the par value being one thousand dollars, and a cash balance on hand on the first instant, of two hundred and nine dollars and sixty-one cents (\$209 61) which is carried to new account.

Randolph, March 10, 1851.

ZENAS FRENCH,  
ISAAC TOWER,  
JONA. WALES.

## TOWN OF RANDOLPH, MASSACHUSETTS

There was no further discussion on the main motion and the main motion was carried. VOTED.

Mrs. Parker moved to adjourn until tomorrow evening at 8:00 o'clock. The motion was duly seconded and the motion was carried.

Whereupon the sixth session of the Randolph Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

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### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

#### SEVENTH SESSION

May 6, 1986

The seventh session of the Annual Town Meeting was convened at the Randolph High School on Tuesday, May 6, 1986 at 8:00 P.M. with Moderator Paul Alpert presiding and declaring a quorum present.

The reporter was sworn.

Gail Bowers, Chairperson of the Board of Selectmen, extended congratulations and presented awards to the winners of the poster contest sponsored by the Humane Society.

The moderator explained the rules of procedure and the tellers were appointed.

State Representative John Flood was introduced as being in attendance.

#### ARTICLE 58.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds or borrow under any applicable state statute the sum of \$136,741.00 for reconstruction of tennis courts at North Junior High School, J. F. Kennedy Junior High and Martin E. Young School, or take any other action with reference thereto.

As petitioned for jointly by the Randolph School Committee and the Board of Recreation.

RECOMMENDATION to be made at Town Meeting.

## TOWN OF RANDOLPH, MASSACHUSETTS

Town Engineers' Building, 1 Turner Lane, Randolph, Massachusetts. The motion was duly seconded, short discussion and the motion was carried. VOTED.

### ARTICLE 59.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money or take any other action in connection therewith for the following purpose(s):

	<u>1984-1985 Expended</u>	<u>1985-1986 Appropriated</u>	<u>1986-1987 Requested</u>
<b>RANDOLPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS</b>			
Salaries	\$ 9,941,474.00	\$10,545,158.00	\$11,428,559.00
Expenses	2,391,141.00	2,768,197.00	2,866,342.00
Sub-Total	\$12,332,615.00	\$13,313,355.00	\$14,294,901.00
<b>BLUE HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOLS</b>			
Operational	\$ 872,999.00	\$ 981,184.00	\$ 723,303.00
Randolph Rear Development			232,502.00
Sub-Total	\$ 872,999.00	\$ 981,184.00	\$ 955,805.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,205,614.00</b>	<b>\$14,294,539.00</b>	<b>\$15,250,706.00</b>

RECOMMENDATION to be made at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 59 . . . Mr. Podolsky moved that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,250,706.00 to fund the budgets as outlined. The motion was duly seconded, short discussion and the motion was carried. VOTED.

### ARTICLE 61.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the control of the Stetson School building, together with approximately 97,359 square feet of land, to the Board of Selectmen from the School Committee. Bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point located on the westerly side of South Main Street, which is 40.22 feet Northeast from a stone monument

Thence, turning and running North 62° - 26' west a distance of 129.35 ft.

Thence, North 86° - 03' - 32" West a distance of 158.41 ft.

Thence, North 24° - 25' - 13" East a distance of 117.28 ft.

Thence, North 32° - 05' - 56" East a distance of 117.75 ft.

Thence, North 10° - 55' - 20" East a distance of 114.16 ft.

## ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

Thence, North  $07^{\circ}-11'$  East a distance of 10.00 ft.

Thence, South  $85^{\circ}-19'$  East a distance of 65.50 ft.

Thence, South  $14^{\circ}-26'$  West a distance of 26.30 ft.

Thence, South  $71^{\circ}-04'$  East a distance of 279.13 ft. to a point on the westerly side of South Main Street, which is 6.40 ft. southwest from a stone bound.

Thence, South  $33^{\circ}-30'-22''$  West a distance of 333.29 ft. to the point of beginning.

Containing 97,359 Square Feet.

Said transfer to be done in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts G.L. Chapter 40, S. 15 and S. 15A, and shall be effective no later than June 30, 1987.

As petitioned for by the Randolph School Committee.

RECOMMENDATION to be made at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 61 . . . Mr. Bower moved that the Town transfer the control of the Stetson School building, together with approximately 97,359 square feet of land, to the Board of Selectmen from the School Committee, the metes and bounds as printed in the article. The motion was duly seconded, short discussion and the motion was carried UNANIMOUSLY.

### ARTICLE 62.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds or borrow under any applicable state statute a sum of money to replace the existing roof on the addition to Randolph High School and the auditorium roof, or take any other action with reference thereto.

As petitioned for by the Randolph School Committee.

RECOMMENDATION to be made at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 62 . . . Mr. Podolsky moved the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$138,694.00 to replace the existing roof on the addition to Randolph High School and the auditorium roof. The motion was duly seconded, long discussion and the motion was carried. VOTED.

### ARTICLE 63.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds or borrow under any applicable state statute a sum of money to repair the roof at the Margaret L. Donovan School, or take any other action with reference thereto.